



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland*

*Thomas M. DiBiagio
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*6625 United States Courthouse
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2692*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

**December 11, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION CONTACT
VICKIE LEDUC, AUSA
(410) 209-4885**

RIVERDALE MAN SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS FOR POSSESSION OF FIREARMS

GREENBELT, Maryland - Thomas M. DiBiagio, United States Attorney for the District of Maryland, announced that Darryl Jovantti Harrington, age 36, of Riverdale, Maryland was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. to 15 years in prison for possession of firearms by a convicted felon.

According to the plea agreement previously presented to the court, on November 3, 2002, Harrington burglarized the home of a firearms collector in Riverdale Heights, Maryland and stole 15 firearms including a machine gun and two semiautomatic assault weapons. On November 5, 2002 Harrington attempted to pawn some of these weapons at A-1 Pawn Brokers in College Park, Maryland. When Harrington returned to the pawn shop 2 days later, he was arrested by the Prince Georges County Police. As a result of his arrest, authorities have been able to recover 8 of the 15 stolen firearms. Harrington sold other weapons on the street.

At sentencing Harrington apologized for his crime saying he had squandered the benefits of a good family and a good neighborhood. He said that while it is not an excuse, he "got into drugs and then after I tried crack (cocaine) my life was never the same." Judge Williams observed that

Harrington had built a criminal history in the state criminal justice system but was now facing the reality of the mandatory minimum sentences under federal law.

This case was investigated by the Prince Georges County Police, the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and Explosives, and their joint firearms task force. The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney James Clarke Howard.